



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



MEDIA RELEASE

Firefighters well and truly 'Stuff their Chopper'

22 December 2016

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons has today praised the efforts of the NSW RFS members who accepted and took on the challenge to 'Stuff Your Chopper' in a show of goodwill for Christmas.

"Following NSW Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione's direct challenge to beat the boys and girls in blue, it is quite pleasing to see our members in yellow across the State really get behind this great cause," Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

"NSW Police decided to take up the idea that originated overseas, to fill an aircraft with items for a nominated charity.

"They then threw out the challenge to all NSW emergency services in the name of supporting those doing it tough at this time of year.

"Across the State our members and their communities have not held back, digging deep and donating items of non perishable food to support Foodbank NSW/ACT."

Formed in 1992, Foodbank is a non-profit organisation that supports charities, providing food and other items for those in need.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons has congratulated the effort of the NSW Police with their chopper being stuffed with goods weighing around 760 kilograms.

"NSW RFS members have risen to the challenge. Not only have we filled one helicopter, but our airframe 'Delilah' and one very large truck as well," Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

"There's no denying cops are tops. However if this is a competition, we feel our almost thirteen tonne donation says it all about the support our members have for local communities.

"A big thank you goes to all our members and local community groups and business that have come on board to support a worthwhile organisation.

"Well done to all emergency services who took part in the challenge this year. The real winners in this wonderful initiative led by NSW Police Force and Commissioner Scipione is Foodbank NSW /ACT and all those that will benefit from this generosity.

"NSW Police, good luck in 2017."



For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on 9898 1855

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